of requantification of the differential duty in pursuance of Director General of Inspection's (Customs and Central Excise) adjudication order dated 10-4-86.

(b) M/s. ITC Ltd.. had filed a writ petition No. 1713/90 in the Patna High Court on the ground that the said demand issued to them was against the principles of natural justice as it had been issued without any show cause notice before raising the demand.

(c) The Patna High Court has decided the said writ petition on 16-5-90. The High Court has quashed the said demand raised against M/s. ITC Ltd., Patna for Rs. 8.29 crores. The High Court has ordered that the Department can recover the additional amount of excise duty from M/s. ITC Ltd., if legally payable, after issuing a show cause notice etc.

(d) The order of the Patna High Court is being examined to determine whether this is a fit case for filing an appeal.

(e) Does not arise.

**Finance Minister's visit to Washington for attending IMF meeting**

*212. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :
SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he had been to Washington to attend a meeting of International Monetary Fund and the meetings of other financing agencies, if so, what is the outcome of the discussions;

(b) whether it is a fact that IMF, World Bank and the United States are putting pressure on the Indian Government in opening the economy to competition ; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to withstand such a pressure ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Yes, Sir. The Interim Committee agreed on a package of measures thereby setting a number of long pending issues. These decisions include:

(i) increase in the total of the IMF quotas by 50%, with a provision of next review by March, 1993 ; and

(ii) extension of the burden sharing arrangements in the IMF and amendment of the IMF Articles providing for suspension under certain conditions, of members who are persistently in arrears with the IMF.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Submission made by All India Food Preservers' Association**

*213. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the submission made by the All India Food Preservers' Association indicating problems being faced by them in providing facilities to food processing industry for its accelerated growth and its impact on fruits and vegetables growers;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES(SHRI SHARDAD YADAV) : Repre-

sentations have been received from the All India Food Preservers' Association from time to time mentioning problems being faced by the food and vegetable processing industry and making various suggestions in this regard. The suggestions relate to, *inter alia*, need for giving fiscal concessions, need for developing linkages between production, processing and marketing, development of suitable packaging materials, coordination of research and development activities, etc.

Government takes into account suggestions received from various organisations while formulating policies and programmes for the development of the food processing sector. Various measures, such as inclusion of most food processing industries in Appendix-I, broad banding of certain food processing industries, granting of fiscal concessions from time to time such as providing relief in excise duties/customs duties, setting up of Development Councils, etc. in addition to formulation of a number of schemes to support the growth of food processing industries have been taken by the Government.

**Review of Import Policy**

*214. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any request for reviewing the import policy which has had received any request for reviewing the import policy which has had deleterious effects on the agricultural commodities and cash crops of Kerala like coconut, rubber, spices, etc.; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU) : (a) Yes, Sir. The main points in the representations were that the new Import & Export Policy in respect of agricultural and plantation products—coconut oil, copra, natural rubber, coir yarn, cocoa and spices would have adverse effects on the farmers of Kerala.

(b) There has been no change in the new Import & Export Policy for the above mentioned items except for nutmeg and mace. Import of these two items which was earlier allowed under Open General Licence by all persons for stock & sale has been tightened by bringing them into the licensable category in the new Import & Export Policy.

**Proposal to set up Statutory Handloom Board**

*215. SHRI KOTAIAH PRAGADA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to set up a statutory Handloom Board on the lines of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission; and

(b) if so, when such a Board will be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir. There is, however, an All India Haundlooms & Handicrafts Board with advisory functions on matters relating to handlooms and handicrafts.

(b) Does not arise.

**Import of Capital goods for manufacturing camera roll films**

*216. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY : Will the Minister